

# ***Reinhold Environmental Ltd.***

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***2007 APC Round Table & Expo  
Presentation***

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***July 8-10, 2007  
Chattanooga, TN  
Hosted by TVA***

# *Wet FGD*

## *Operations and Maintenance Workshop*

**Greg Bielawski**

The Babcock & Wilcox Company

**Gordon Maller**

URS Corporation

**Tony Licata**

Babcock Power Environmental

**Richard Staehle**

Marsulex

**Melissa Allen**

TVA

**Bob Candelaria**

Salt River Project

**Hans Hartenstein**

STEAG, LLC

**Ron Richard**

RE Consulting

**Scott Williams**

Duke Energy

**APC / PCUG Conference**  
**July 8, 2007**



# ***Workshop Outline***

- 1. Wet FGD Process Description, Equipment, Configuration, Materials**
- 2. Chemistry Overview, Effect of Key Process Variables, Process Problems – Identify and Correct, Optimization of System Performance**
- 3. Equipment Operation and Maintenance**
- 4. Panel Discussion**



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## **1. Wet FGD Process Description, Equipment, Configuration, Materials**

**What's the issue & progress**

**Overview of major types of utility FGD systems**

**General description of wet limestone forced oxidized (LSFO) system**

**Basic types & configurations of commercially available LSFO FGD technology**

**Absorber Configuration, Equipment, Materials**

**Forced Oxidation / Dewatering, Milling System**



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# *What is the driver to scrub?*

## **Past**

- Coarse particulate
- Acid rain
  - Scrubbers for sulfur oxides as sulfuric acid precursors
  - Combustion control for nitrogen oxides as nitric acid precursors

## **Present**

- Acid rain
  - By-product utilization of sulfur oxides
  - Selective catalytic reduction for nitrogen oxides as nitric acid precursors
- Air toxics, especially mercury
- PM 2.5 (fine particulate matter less than 2.5 microns)
- Sulfuric Acid Mist

## **Coming Soon**

- Carbon dioxide controls

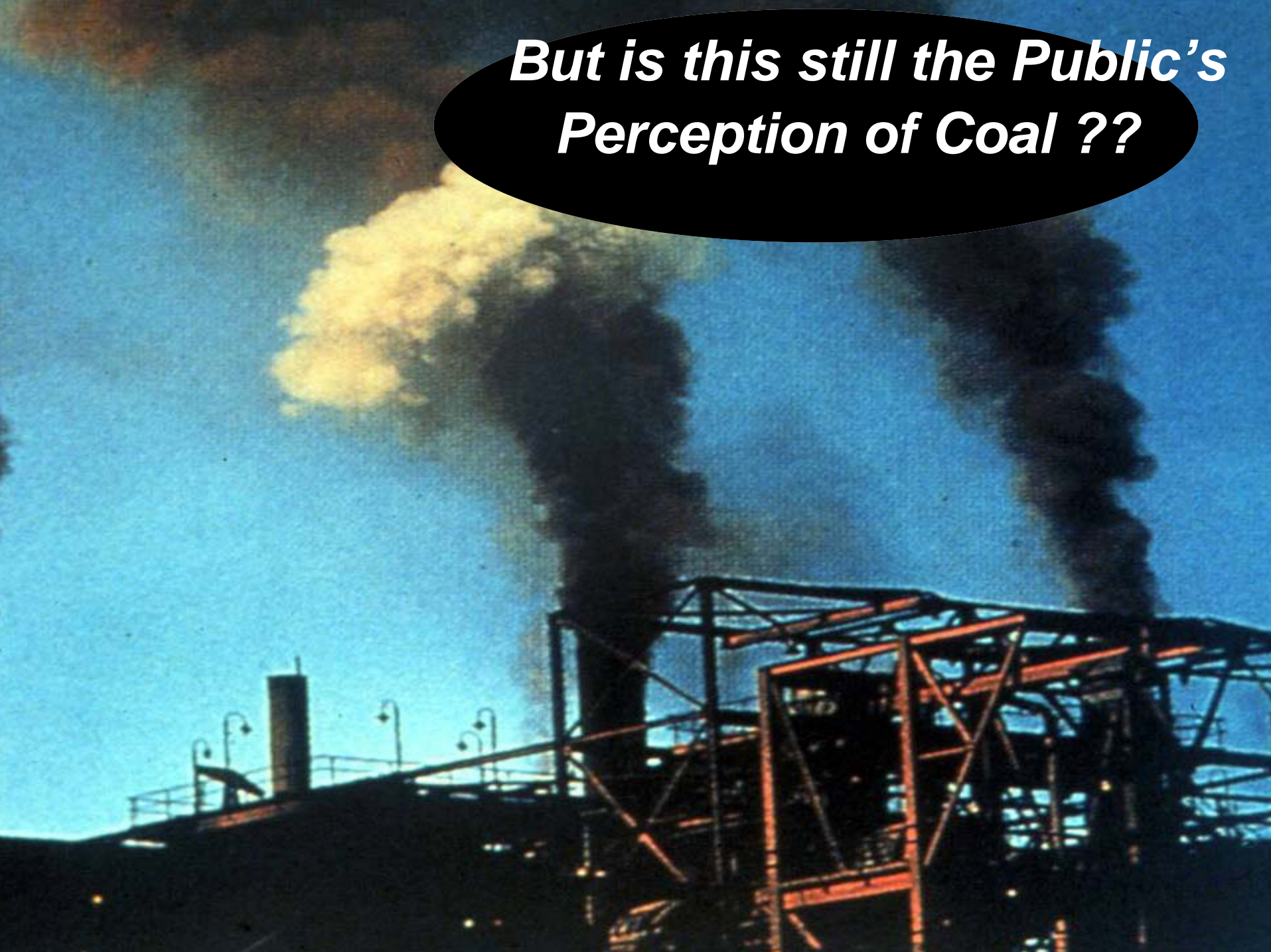


# ***U.S. Legislative Drivers***

- **Clean Air Act of 1970**
- **Clean Air Act Amendment of 1977**
- **Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990**
  - **Phase I - January 1995**
  - **Phase II - January 2000**
- **PM 2.5 / Ozone Regulations**
- **Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR)**
- **Clean Air Mercury Rule (CAMR)**
- **Clean Air Visibility Rule (CAVR)**
- **CO<sub>2</sub> Limits (TBD)**



***But is this still the Public's  
Perception of Coal ??***



# *The Modern Look of Coal-Fired Power Generation*

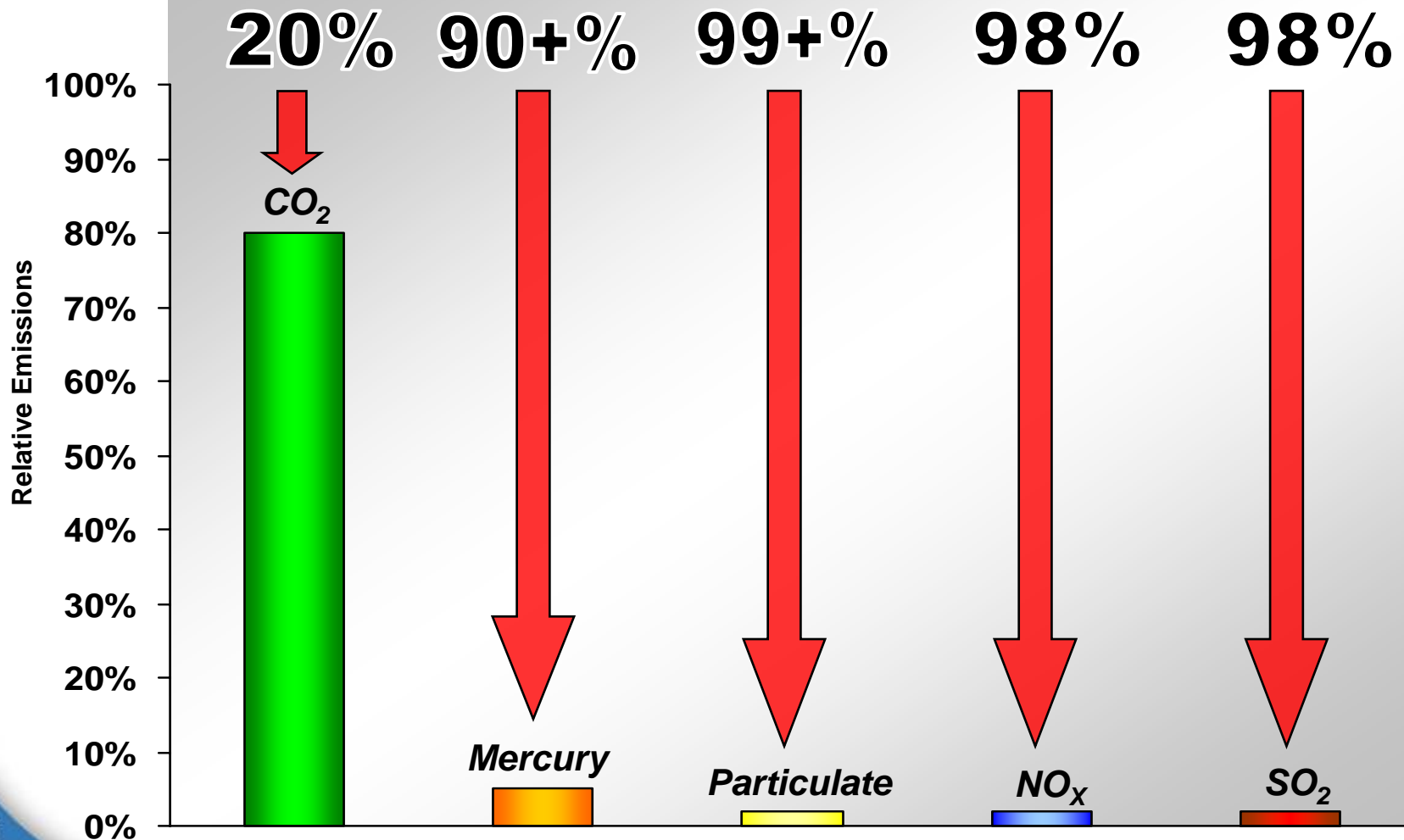


***Tri-State Generation – Craig, Colorado***



# New Pulverized Coal Plants Significantly Reduce Emissions

Baseline Emissions: 1960s vintage subcritical coal plant – Percentages are total reductions

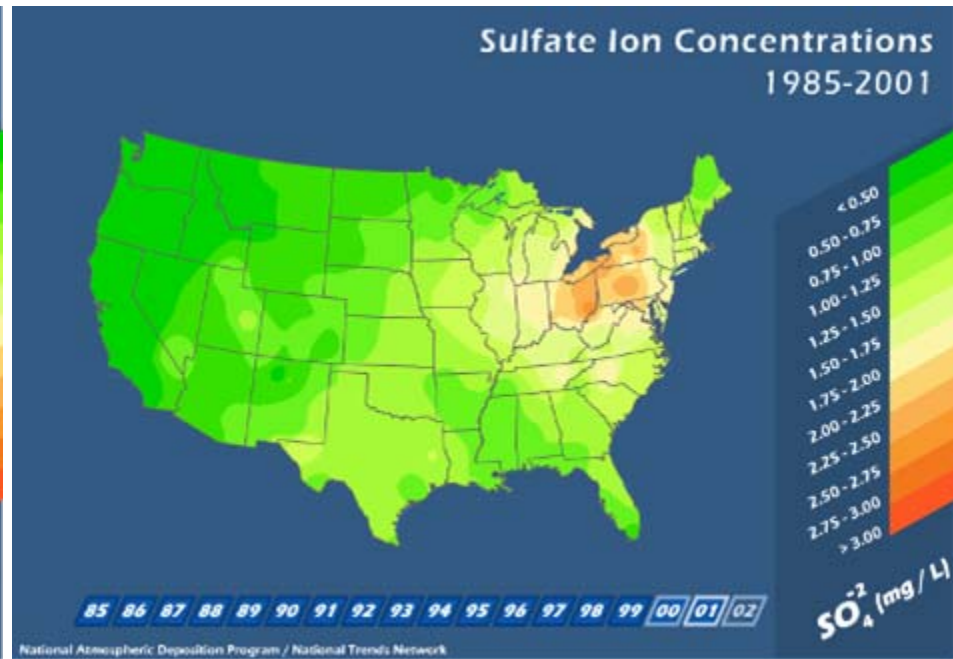
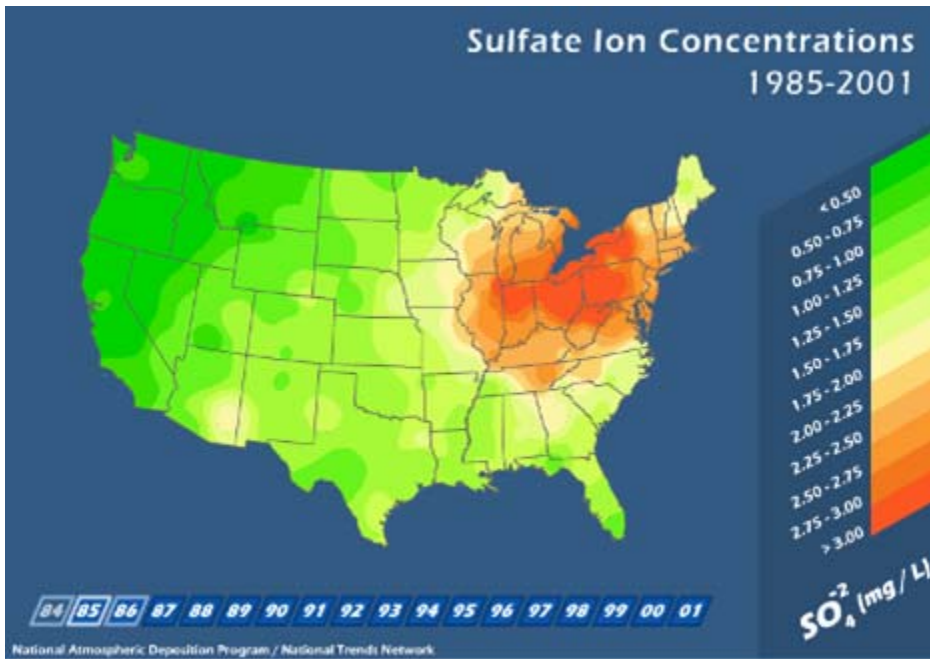


# Is the USA making progress?

## Wet Sulfate Deposition

1985

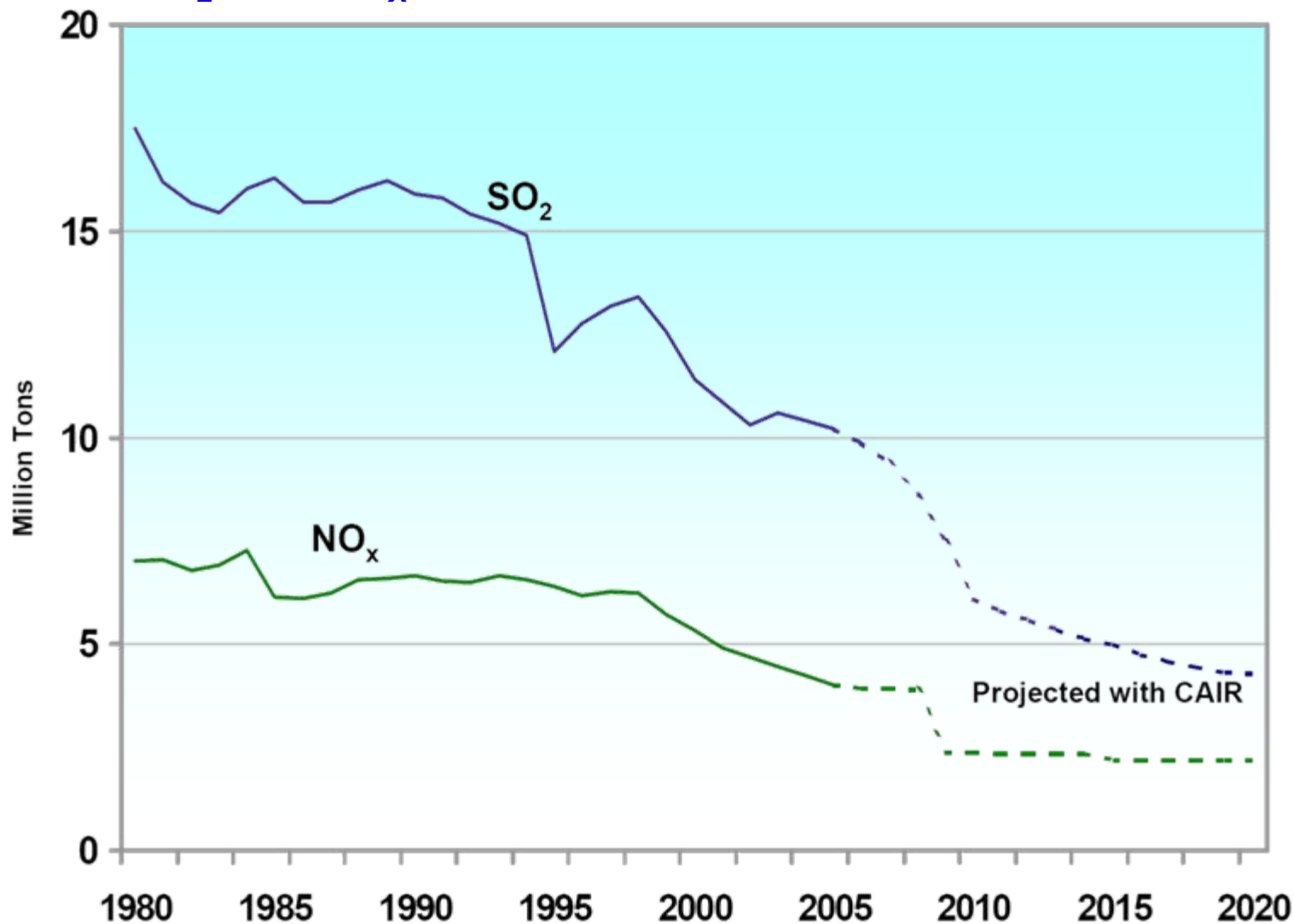
2001



Source: EPA



# CAIR Accelerates 35 Years of Clean Air Progress: Nationwide SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> Emissions from the Power Sector



Source: EPA

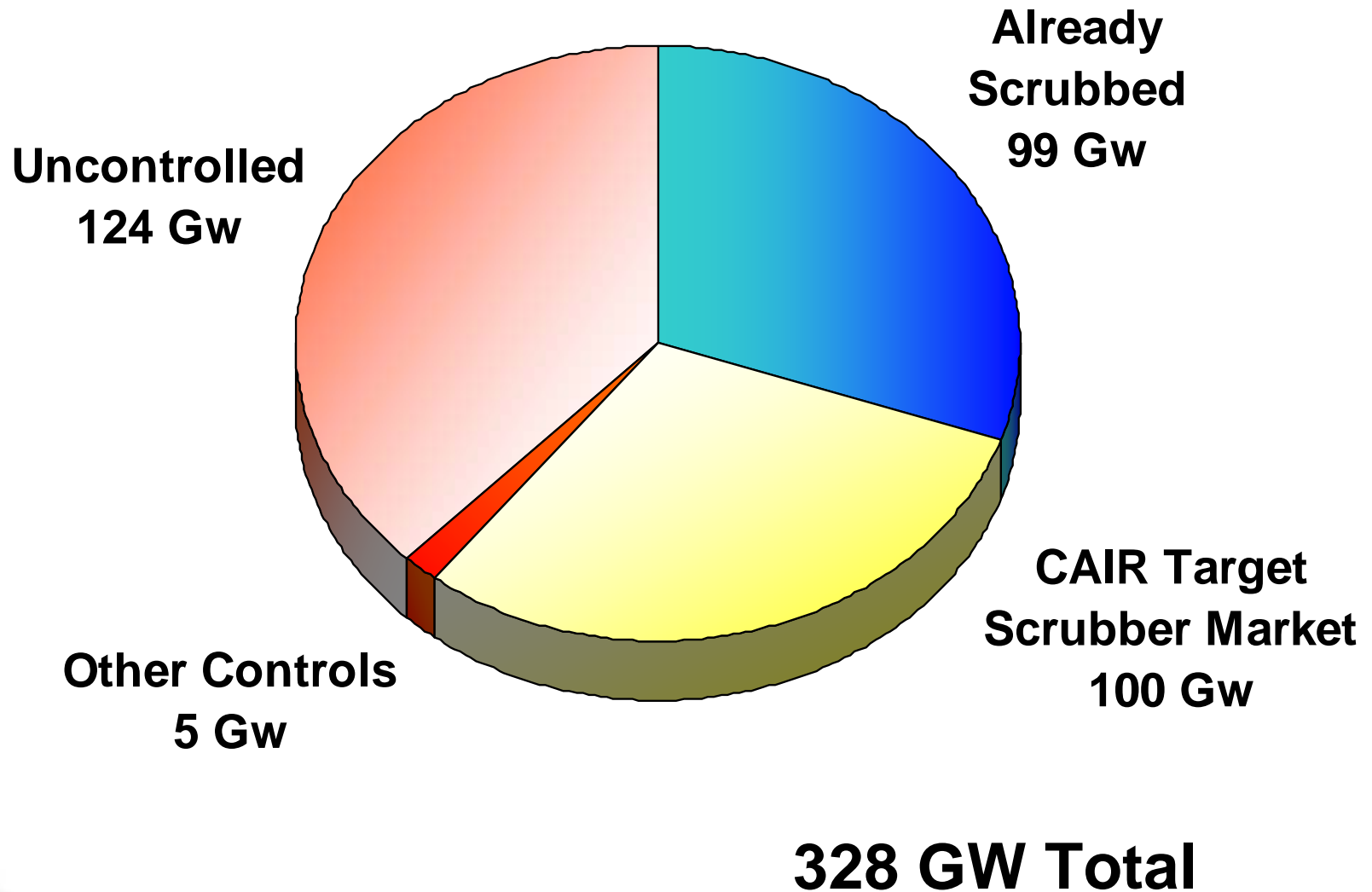


# *Reactions to SO<sub>2</sub> Regulations*

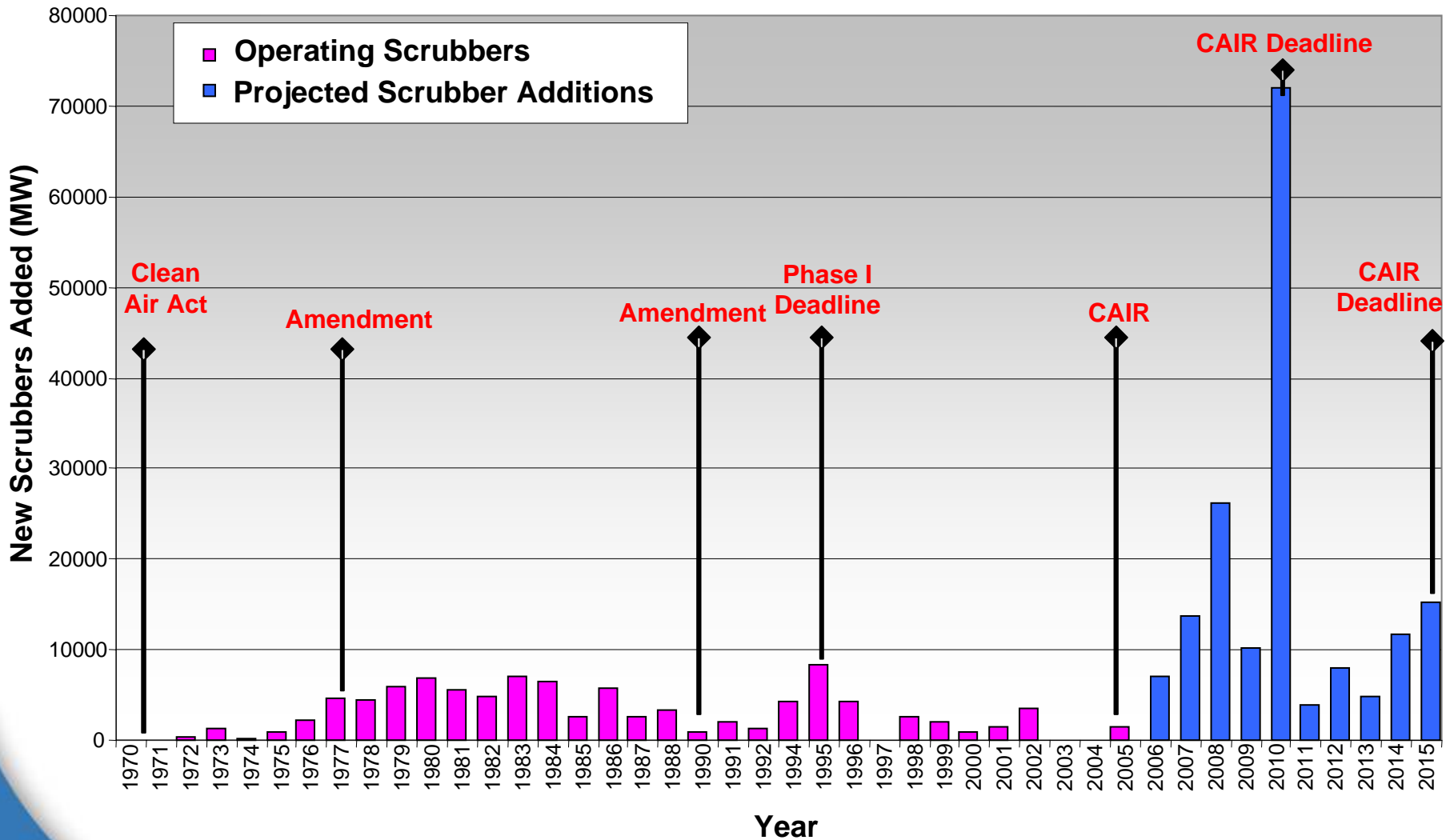
- **Buy credits**
- **Switch to lower sulfur coals**
  - **Powder River Basin**
- **Install scrubbers**
  - **Dry scrubbers - lower sulfur applications**
  - **Wet scrubbers - higher sulfur applications**
- **Earn credits / bank credits / sell credits**
- **Upgrades to Existing Scrubbers to Increase SO<sub>2</sub> Removal.**



# U.S. Coal-Fired Generating Capacity by Scrubber Status



# Utility FGD Additions by Year



Source : Mcllvaine US Scrubber Forecast



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**General description of wet limestone forced oxidized (LSFO) system**

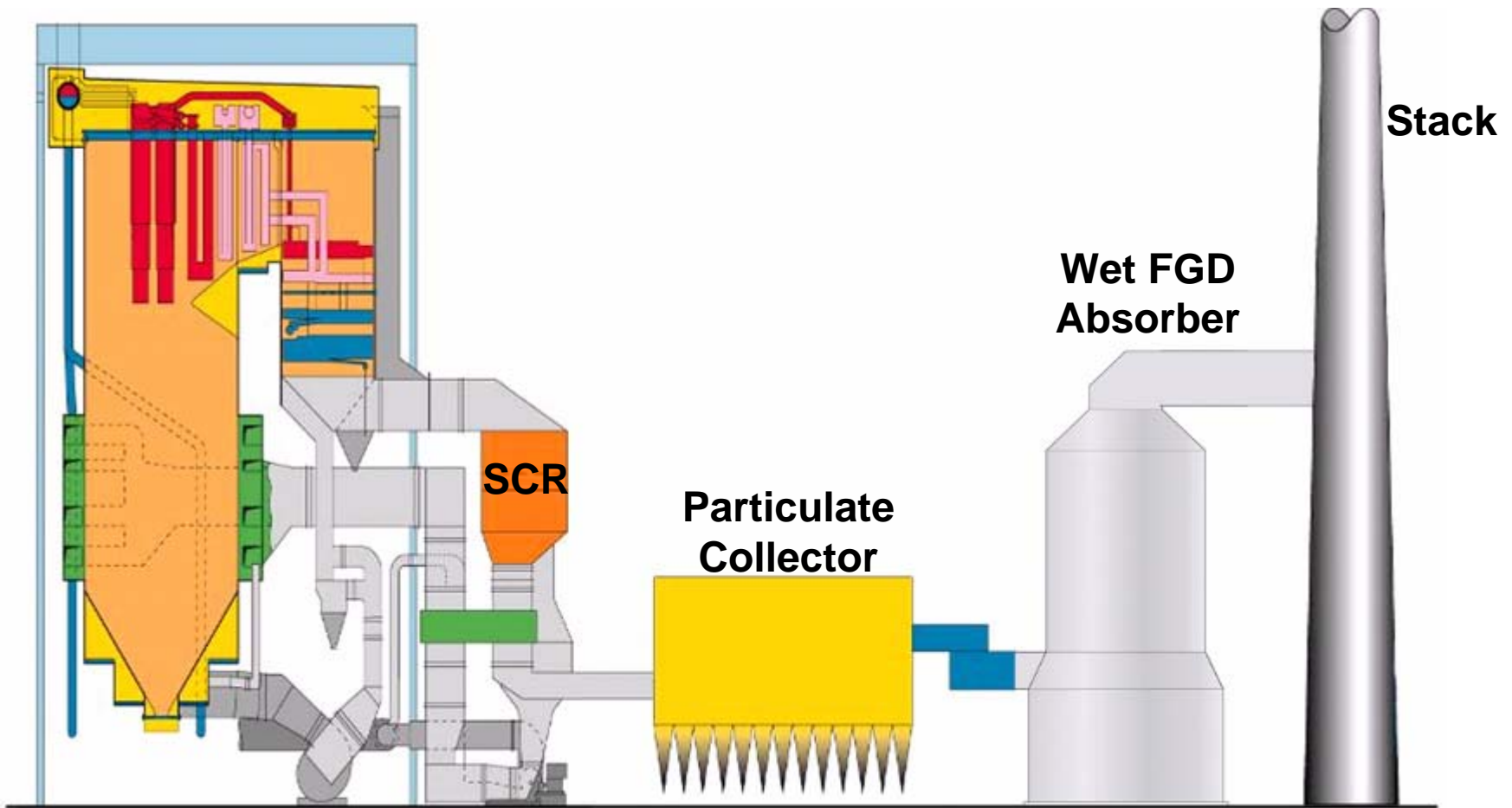
**Basic types & configurations of commercially available LSFO FGD technology**

**Absorber Configuration, Equipment, Materials**

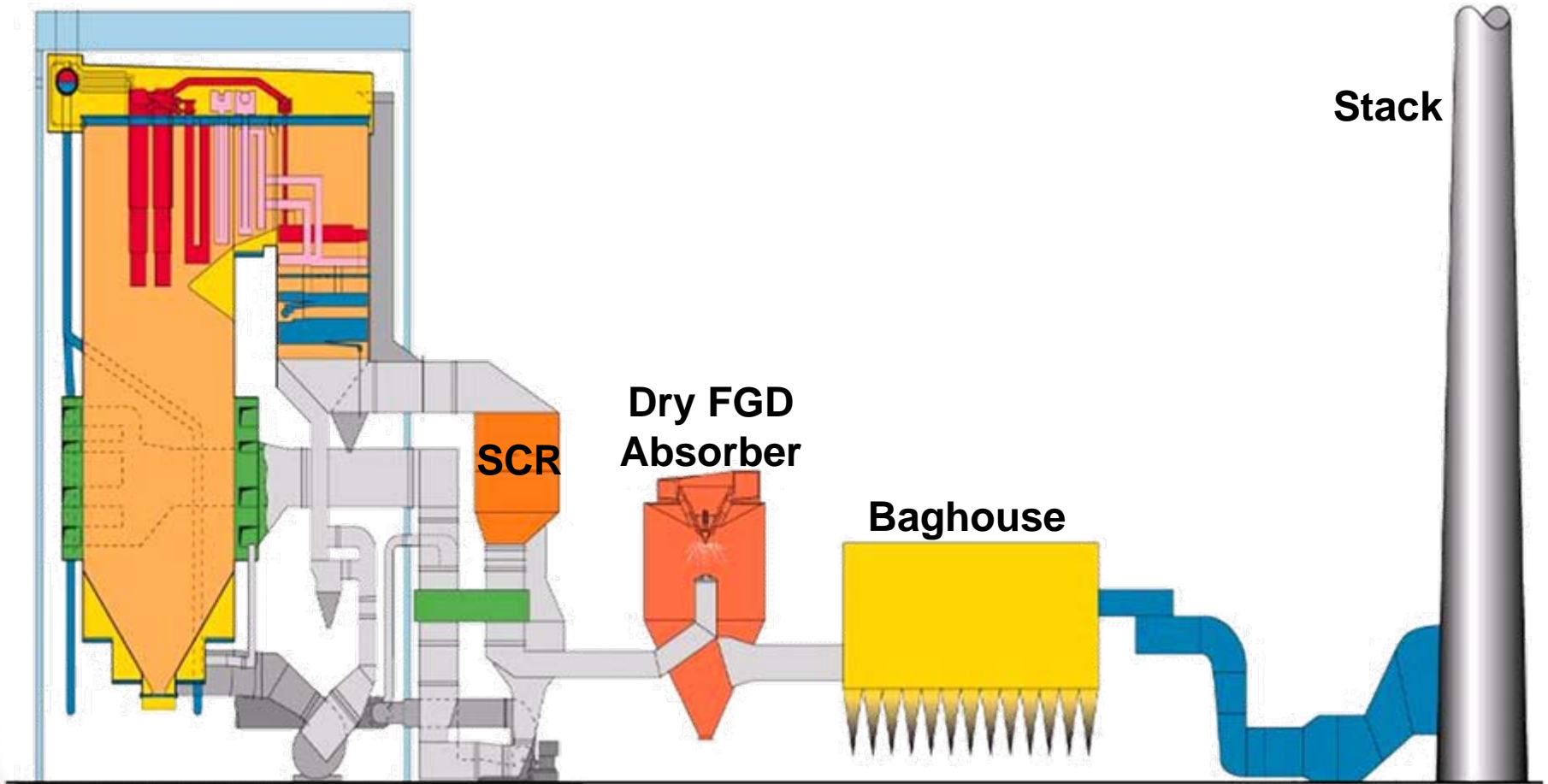
**Forced Oxidation / Dewatering, Milling System**



# Typical High Sulfur Coal Configuration



# Typical Low Sulfur Coal (i.e. PRB) Configuration



# *Sulfur in Coal to SO<sub>2</sub>*

**3.0% Sulfur; 12,000 BTU/LB coal**

$$\frac{3.0 \text{ lb Sulfur}}{100 \text{ lb coal}} \times \frac{1 \text{ mole Sulfur}}{32 \text{ lb Sulfur}} \times \frac{1 \text{ mole SO}_2}{1 \text{ mole Sulfur}} \times$$

$$\frac{64 \text{ lb SO}_2}{1 \text{ mole SO}_2} \times \frac{1 \text{ lb coal}}{12,000 \text{ BTU}} \times \frac{1,000,000 \text{ BTU}}{\text{Million BTU}}$$

$$= 5.0 \frac{\text{lb SO}_2}{\text{Million BTU}}$$

**Also known as a “5 Lb Coal”**

**~2624 ppmvd @ 3% O<sub>2</sub> (parts per million by volume dry at 3% oxygen in the flue gas); ~525 ppm SO<sub>2</sub> per 1 lb Coal**

**~6240 mg per DSCM @ 6%O<sub>2</sub> (milligrams per dry standard cubic meter, 0 degrees C) (2.38 x ppm)**



# Wet FGD Chemistry - Limestone

2 lbs. SO<sub>2</sub> for each 1 lb. of sulfur in fuel



Calcium Carbonate (limestone)

Calcium Sulfate or gypsum  
(primary material in wallboard)

# Dry FGD Chemistry - Lime



Calcium Oxide (lime)

Calcium Sulfite – to minefill



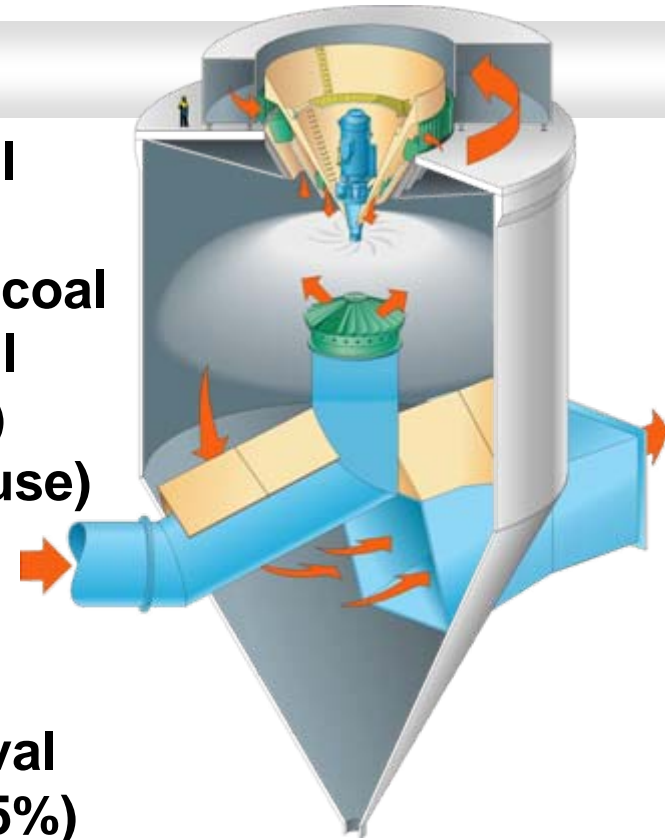
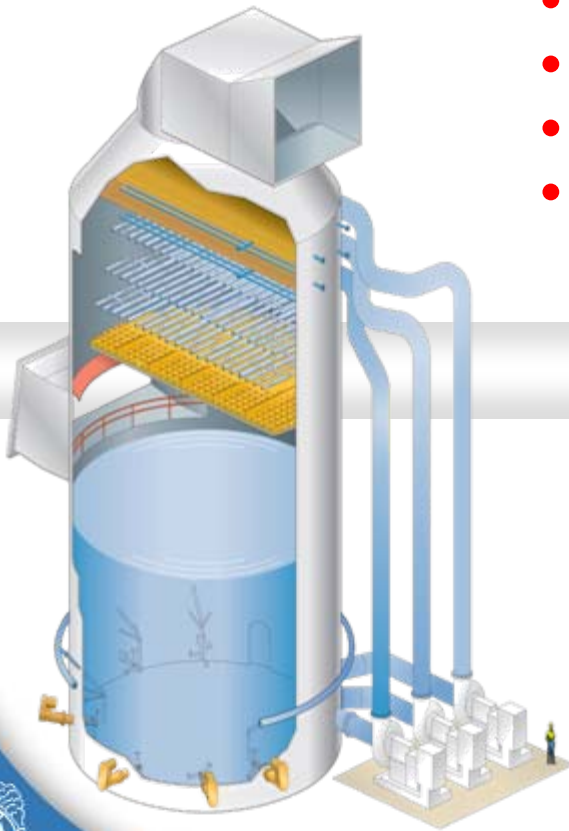
# SO<sub>2</sub> Reduction with Wet FGD or Dry FGD

## Dry FGD System

- Up to 95% SO<sub>2</sub> removal
- Lower sulfur fuels
- Typically <1.5% sulfur coal
- Dry product for landfill
- Uses lime (\$50-70/ton)
- Final filter last (baghouse)

## Wet FGD System

- Up to 98% SO<sub>2</sub> removal
- High sulfur fuels(>1.5%)
- More fuel flexibility
- Marketable byproduct
- Typically uses limestone (\$5-15/ton)



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# *Characteristics of Wet FGD Systems*

- **Coal sulfur levels of 0.2 to 8 %**
- **Inlet SO<sub>2</sub> ranges from 200 - 6500 ppmv**
- **Removal efficiencies up to 99 %**
- **98% removal typically required today**
- **Mature Technology: 4<sup>th</sup> Generation**
- **One tower per boiler; even 1300 MW units**
- **Added benefit: ability to remove oxidized mercury**
- **Availability better than the boiler today**

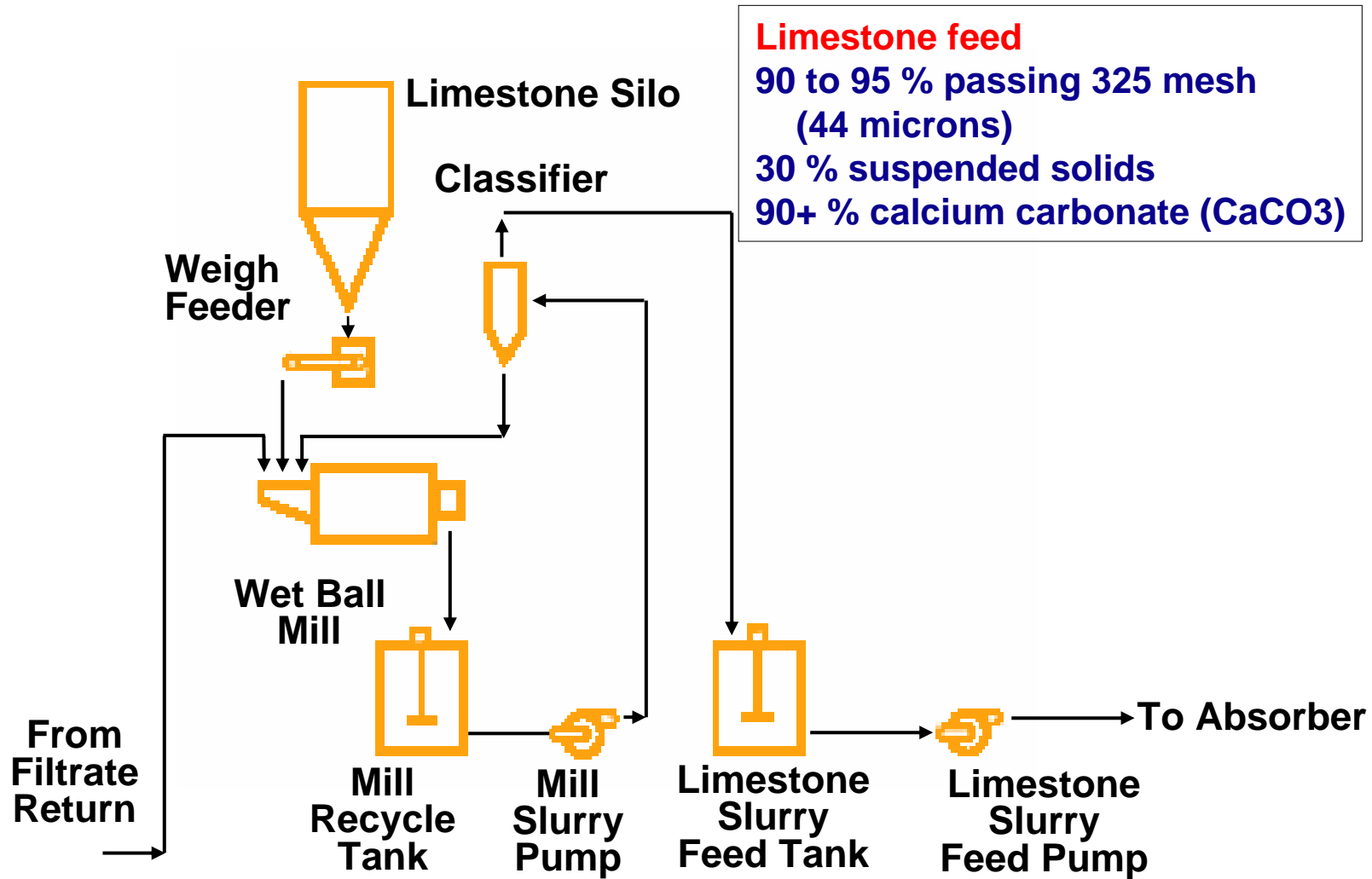


# ***Wet FGD Process Overview***

- Prepare reagent (such as limestone, lime, or soda ash)
- Quench / Humidify the Flue Gas
- Absorb SO<sub>2</sub>
- React SO<sub>2</sub> with reagent
- Oxidize to Gypsum
- Remove slurry from flue gas
- Separate product (ie, gypsum) from water slurry (dewater)



# Limestone Preparation System



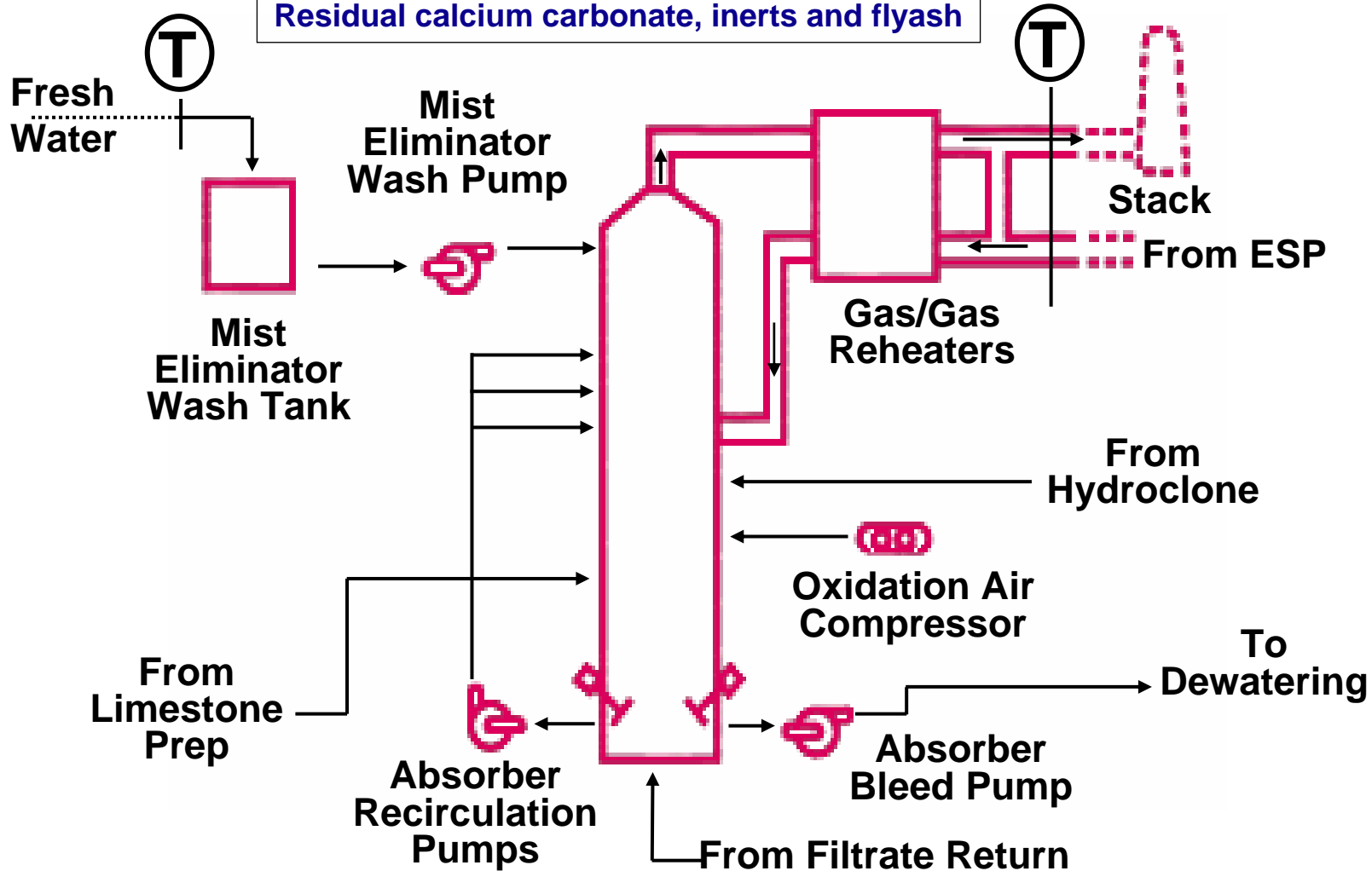
# Absorber System

## Absorber slurry

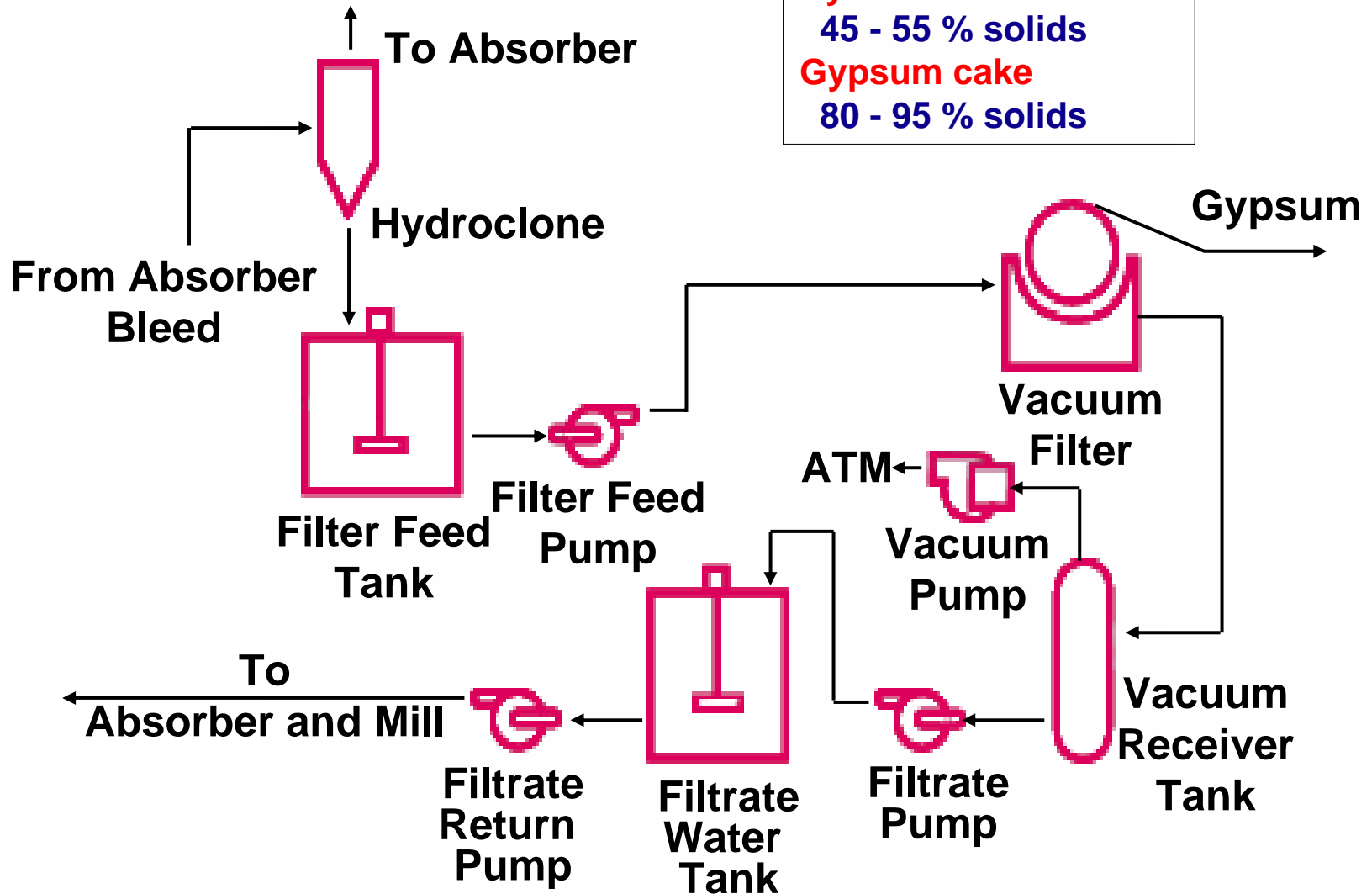
15 - 20 % suspended solids

92%+ gypsum (calcium sulfate,  $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ )

Residual calcium carbonate, inerts and flyash



# Dewatering System



**Absorber Bleed**  
15 - 20 % solids  
**Hydroclone underflow**  
45 - 55 % solids  
**Gypsum cake**  
80 - 95 % solids



# *Wet FGD Equipment Terminology*

**Reagent Preparation** - A system for preparing the reagent slurry used for sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) removal, typically with grinding mills for limestone or slakers for lime.

**Absorber or Absorber Tower** - Also called a scrubber, the vessel where the flue gas passes through a slurry spray for SO<sub>2</sub> absorption and removal.

**Absorber Spray** - A system of spray nozzles to administer a distributed spray of slurry within the absorber tower.

**Contact Device** - A perforated plate installed in the absorber to increase contact between the flue gas and the slurry.

**Recirculation Tank** - A vessel which receives and stores the slurry which has been sprayed into an absorber. The slurry from this tank is recirculated to the spray nozzles.

**Mist Eliminator** - A device used to separate slurry droplets from the scrubbed flue gas at the absorber outlet.

***See Lexicon***



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# *Wet FGD Absorber Types*

## **Configuration**

- **Open Spray Tower**
- **Spray Tower with Tray**
- **Double Contact Flow Scrubber**
- **Bubbling reactor**
- **Packed tower**

## **Method**

- **Once-through**
- **Regenerable**

## **Reagent**

- **Calcium-based - limestone or lime**
- **Sodium-based - soda ash, caustic soda**



# Wet FGD Absorber Types

## Configuration

- Open spray tower
- Spray tower with Tray
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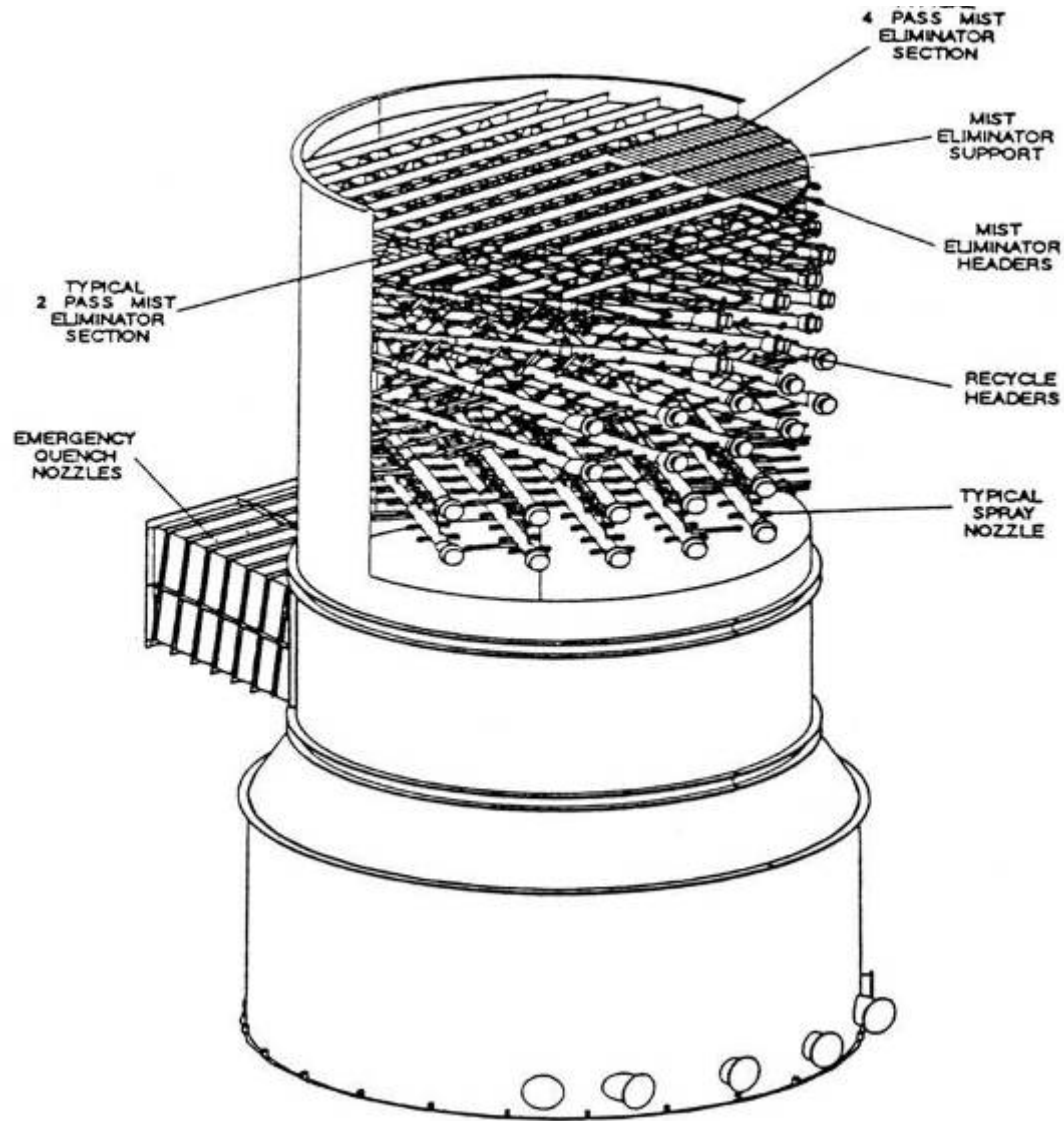
- **Once-through**
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## Reagent

- **Calcium-based - limestone** or lime
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# Typical Open Spray Tower

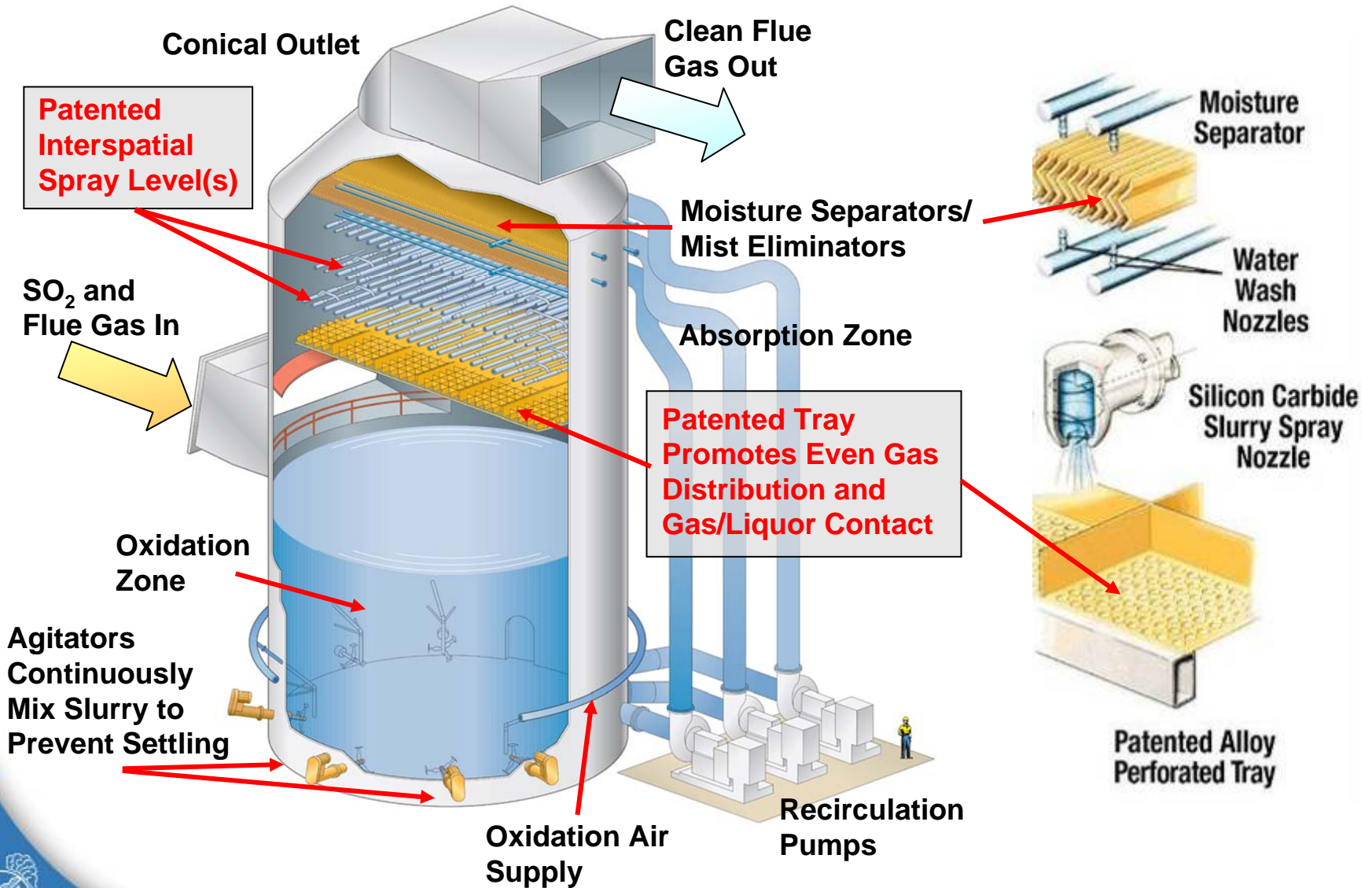


# *Open Spray Tower*



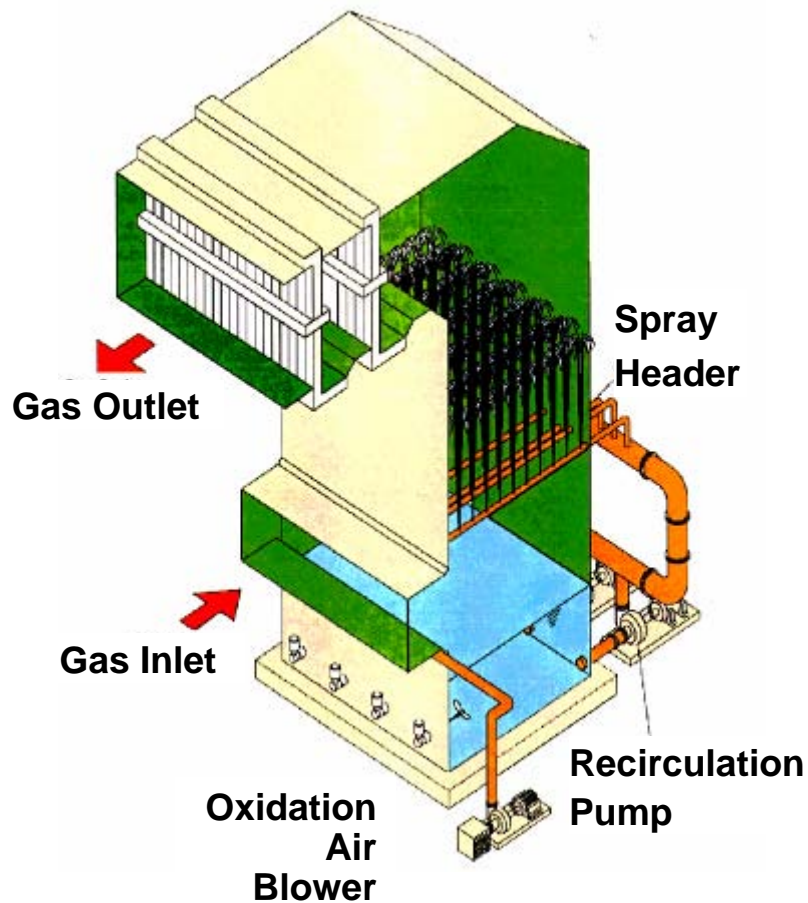
**Source:**  
***Babcock Power Inc.***

# B&W's Wet FGD Absorber

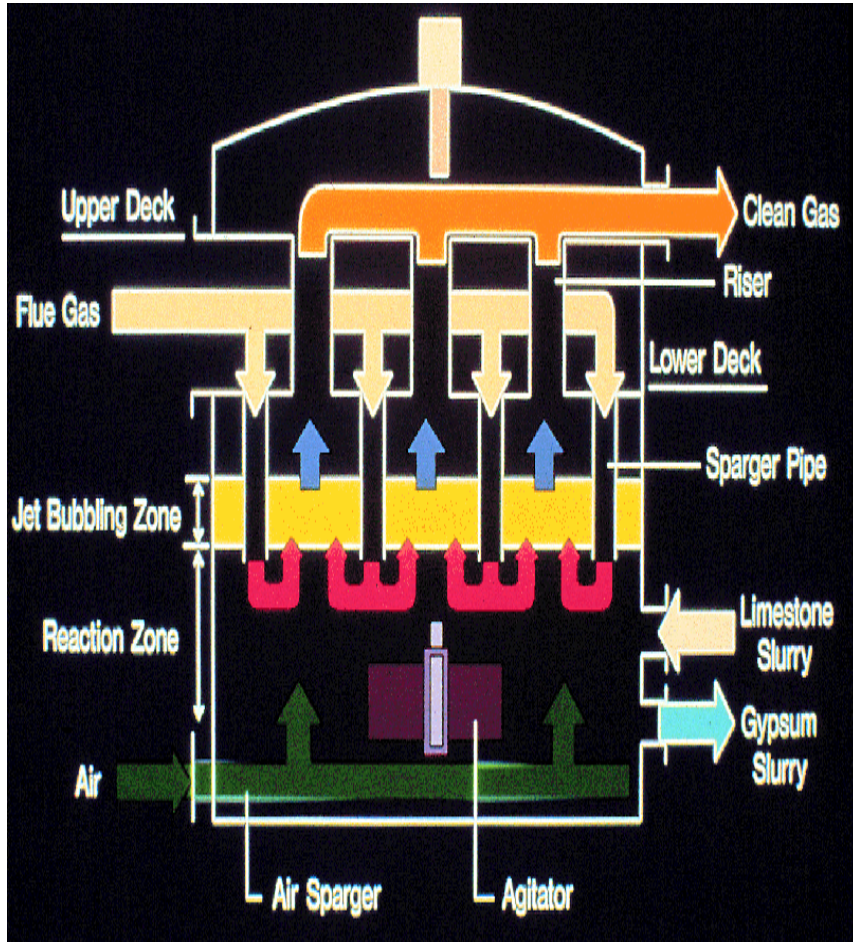


# *Double Contact Flow Scrubber*

## *MHI - Advatech*



# 千代田化工建設 (Chiyoda) - Jet Bubbling Reactor



# *Packed Towers No Longer Used*



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# Absorber Tower Sizing

## **Diameter or Cross-section**

- Set by gas flow
- Set for proper gas contact & to prevent mist carryover
- Usually 10-14 FPS superficial gas velocity, higher with MHI design, lower with Chiyoda

## **Height**

- Gas flow and inlet opening width sets inlet
- Number of headers sets absorption zone height
- L/G & Retention Time sets recirculation tank volume
- Mist eliminator height or depth is fixed

**Note: Higher SO<sub>2</sub> removal efficiency and SO<sub>2</sub> inlet concentration increases the required Liquid to Gas Ratio (L/G) and hence increases the number of headers, spray zone height and recirculation tank retention time and volume.**



***Absorber  
Gas  
Inlet***



***Source:  
Babcock Power Inc.***

# *FRP Spray Headers*



# *Alloy Spray Headers*



# *Hollow Cone Spray Nozzle*



**Also top & bottom exit nozzles of this type**



# *Spiral Nozzle*

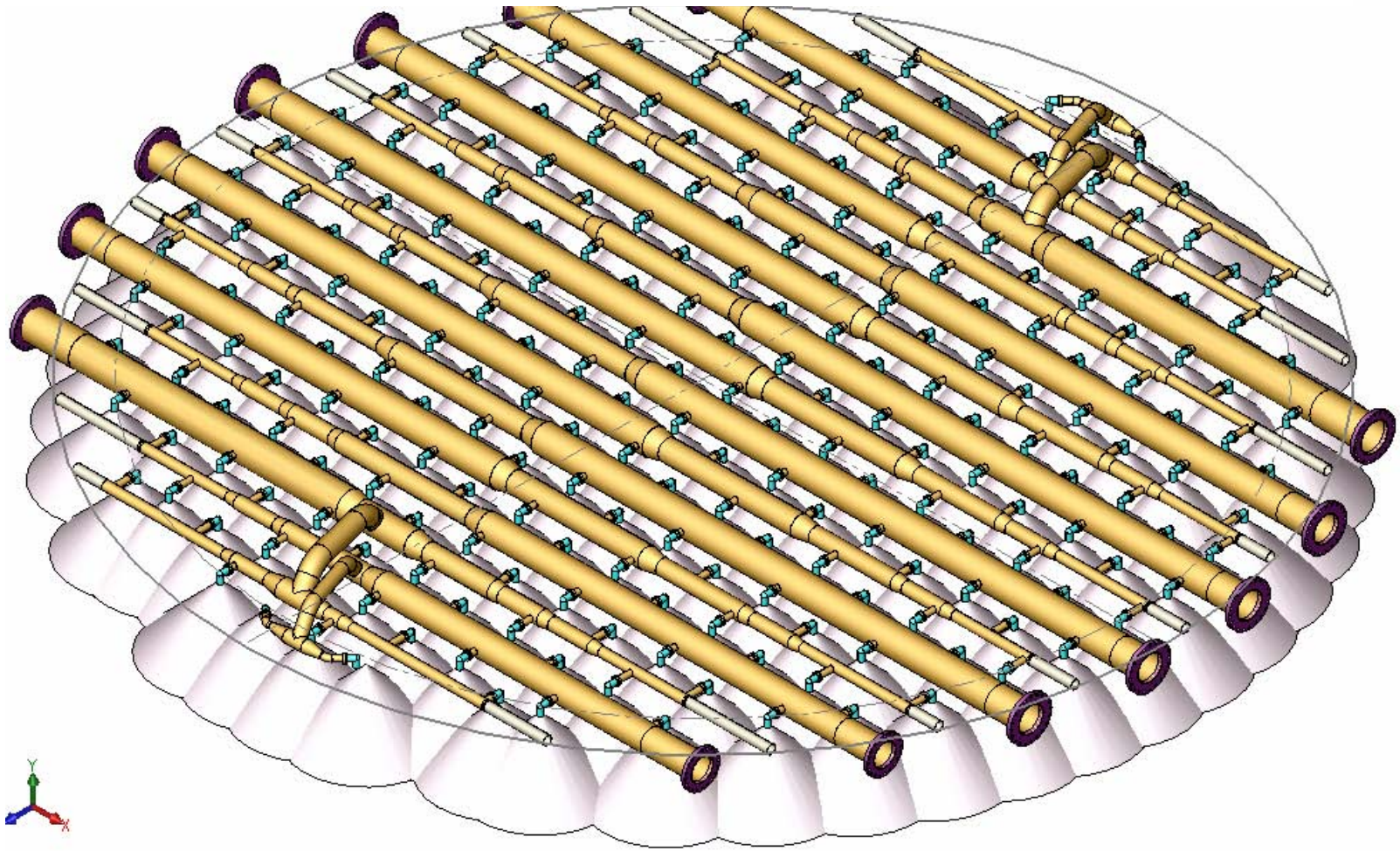
*Excellent Spray  
Distribution, but...*



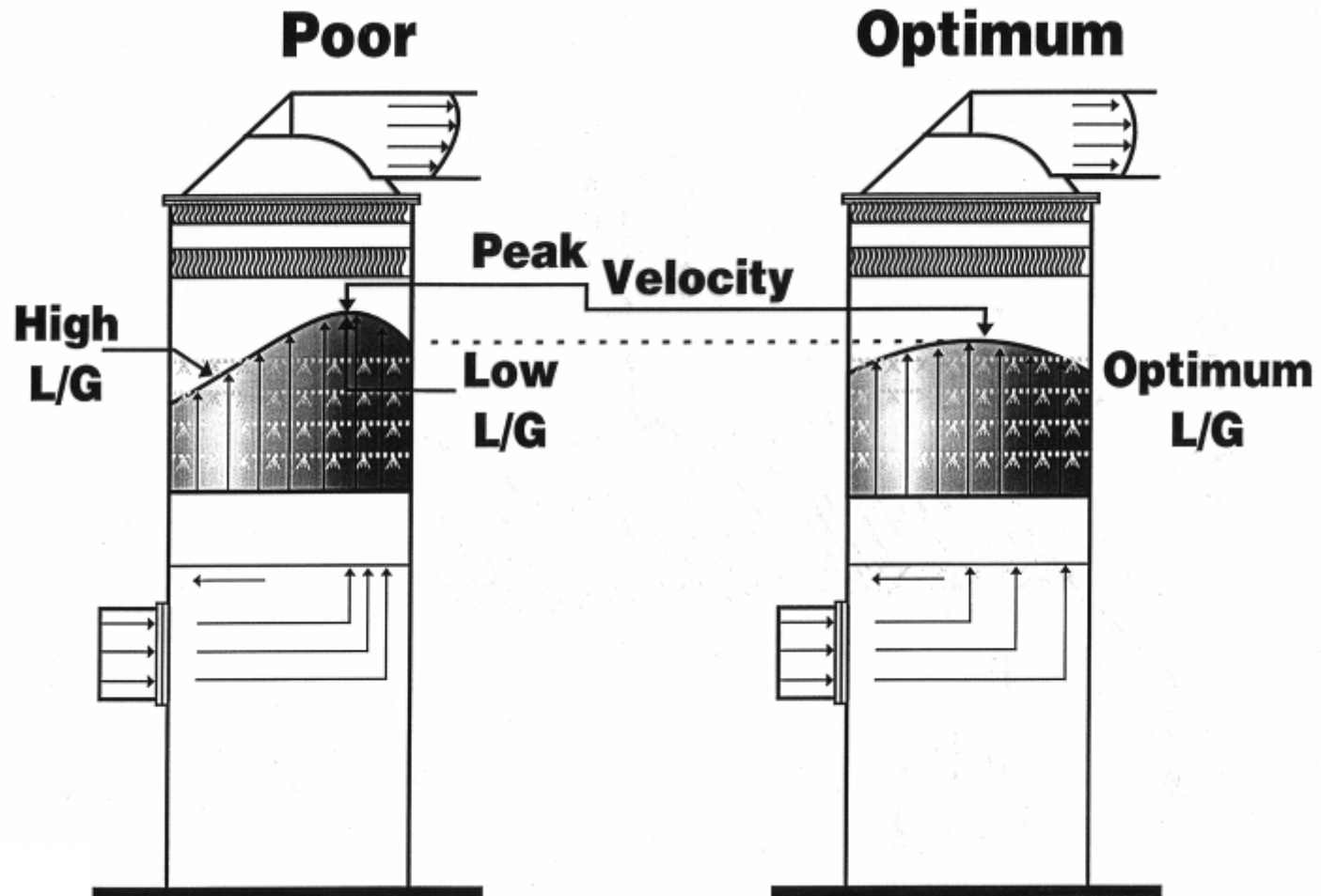
# *Spiral Nozzles prone to breakage*



# Spray Headers & Nozzles Full Coverage



# Importance of Gas Flow Distribution



# *B&W Absorber Gas Inlet with Tray*



# *Absorber Spray Nozzles & Tray*



**Note the ease of nozzle maintenance**



# Absorber Spray Headers & Tray

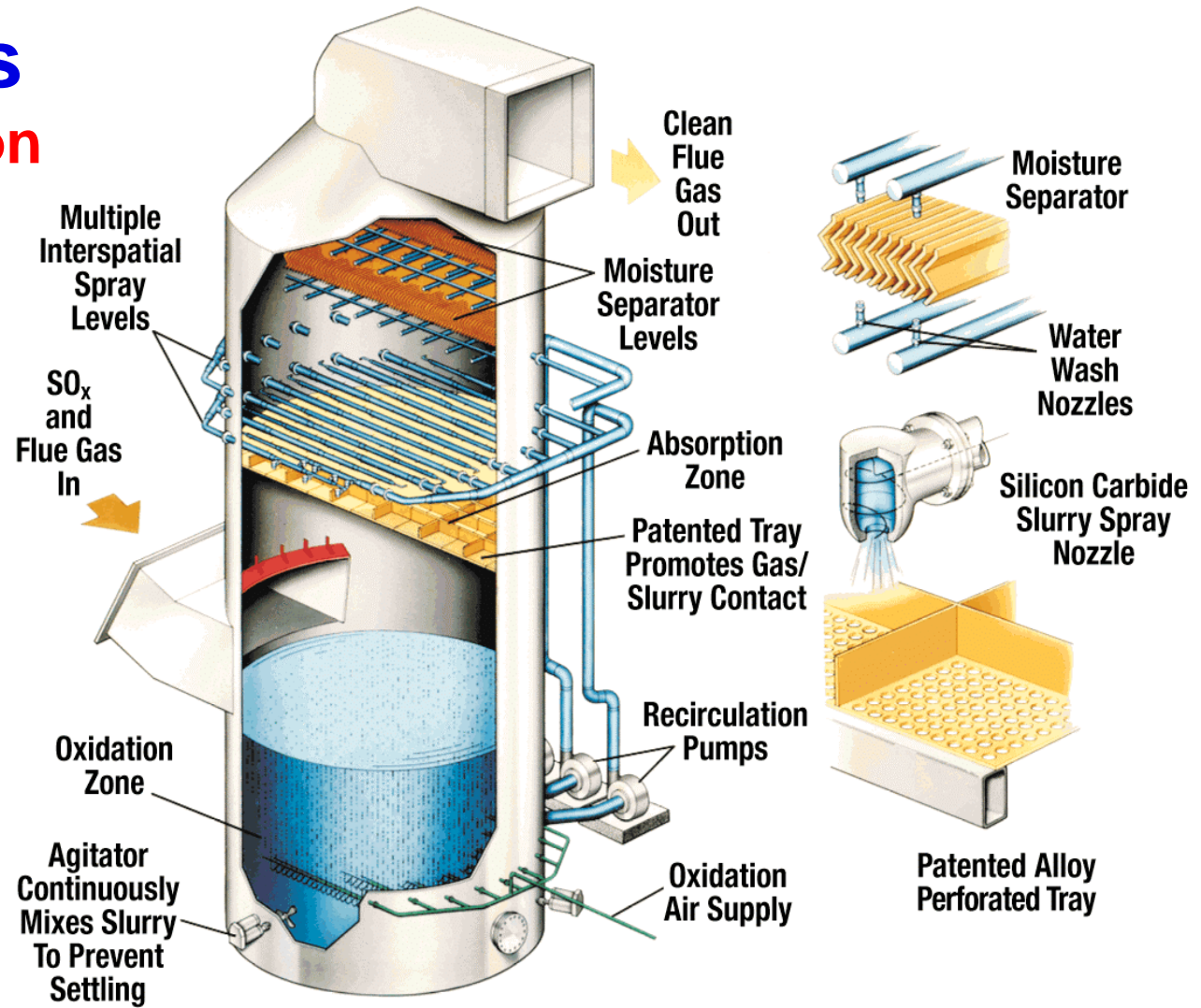


## Taiwan Power Unit 5 – One-year Inspection

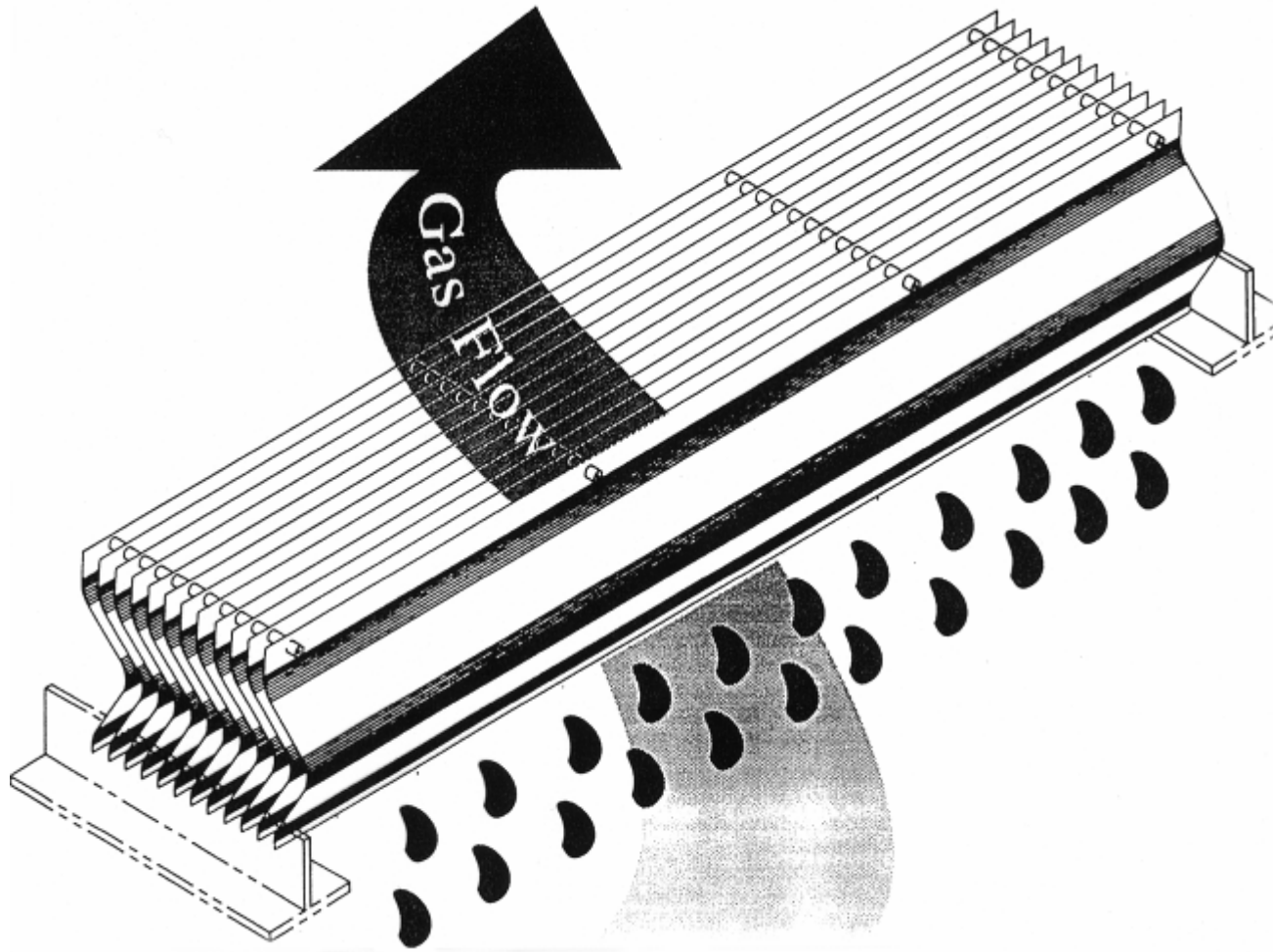


# Absorber Tower Subsystems

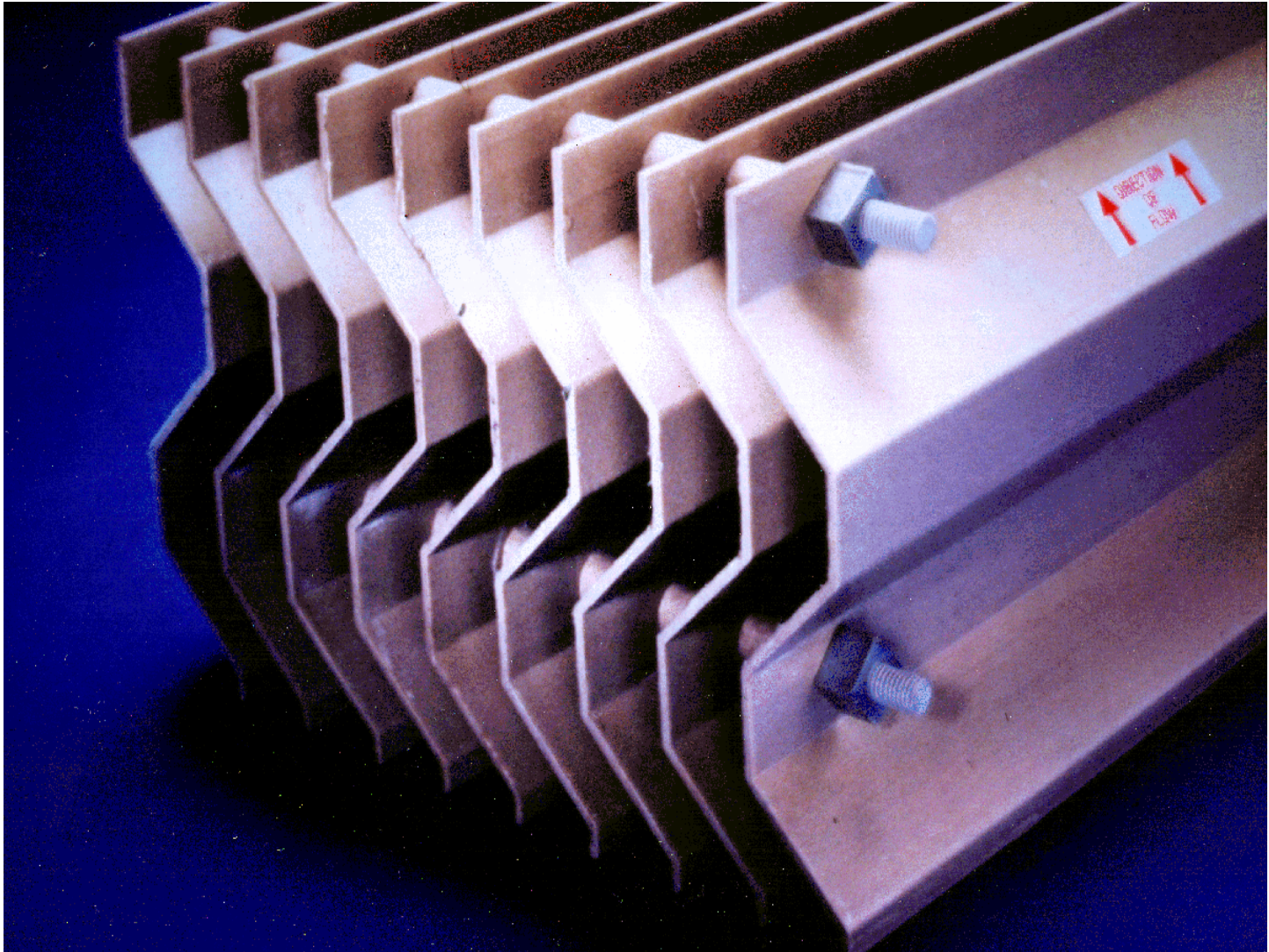
- **Mist elimination**



# *Mist Eliminator*



# *Mist Eliminator*



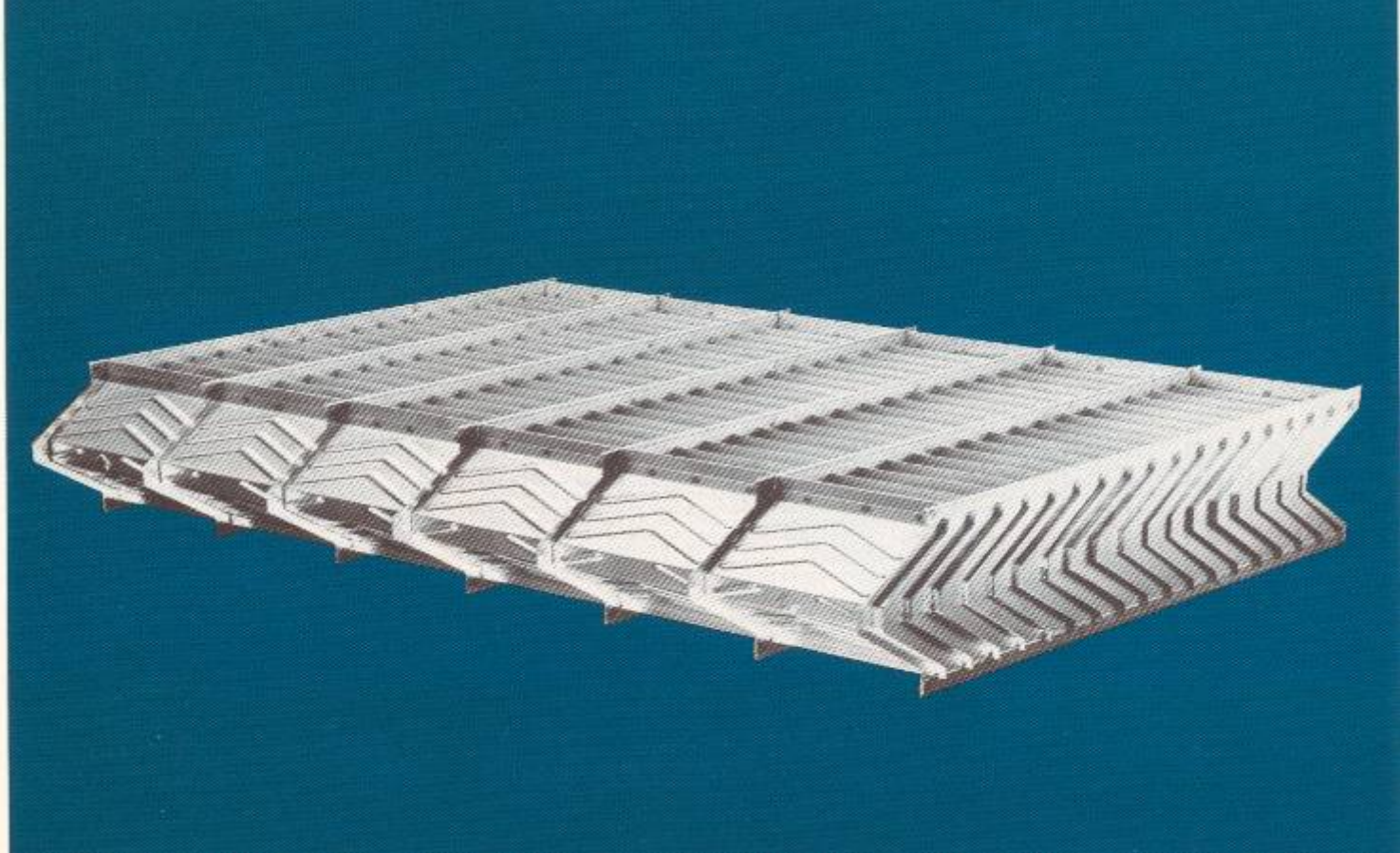
**9" to  
12"  
high**

# *Typical Lower & Upper Mist Eliminator*



**Source: Munters**

# ***Mist Eliminator***



***Source: Munters***